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Bougainvillea glabra

[Synonyms : *Bougainvillea formosa*, *Bougainvillea spectabilis* var. *glabra*, *Bougainvillea splendens*]

BOUGAINVILLEA (English, German) is a semi-evergreen or evergreen shrub or vine. Native to Brazil it has tiny, scented, magenta-purple flowers surrounded by petal-like, bright crimson leaves (bracts).

It is also known as *Bougainvillée* (French), *Brasilianische Bougainvillee* (German), *Buganvillea* (Portuguese), *Bunga kertas* (Malay), *Dreifaltigkeitsblume* (German), *Drillingsblume* (German), *Kahle Drillingsblume* (German), Lesser bougainvillea, Paperflower, Purple bougainvillea, *Trillingblomma* (Swedish), *Trillinggranke* (Danish), and *Trojčatový květ* (Czech).

Glabra is Latin (hairless, bald) meaning 'hairless or smooth'.

Authorities believe that bougainvillea was introduced to Africa and Europe in the late 1850s. It was introduced to India later at the turn of that century.